

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00459 060337Z

ACTION EB-08

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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8285

INFO FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION WASHDC

COMICEDEFOR KEFLAVIK IC

COMSC WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0459

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, MARR, IC, US

SUBJECT: ALLEGATION OF MARITIME LAW VIOLATION

REF: COMSC 072230Z MAR 78 (NOTAL), REYKJAVIK 0037 (DTG 091730Z
JAN 78 (NOTAL)

1. OWNERS AND MANAGER OF COMPANY WHICH OWNS M.V. BIFROST
CALLED ON EMBOFF APRIL 4 TO DISCUSS COMPLAINT ABOUT
OPERATIONS OF ICELANDIC STEAMSHIP CO. (EIMSKIP) WHICH
THEY ALLEGE TO BE IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 14 QUOTE
FIGHTING SHIP UNQUOTE PROVISIONS OF SHIPPING ACT OF
1916 AND POLICY FOR BOOKING CARGO ISSUED BY COMMANDER,
MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND. AGENTS FOR M.V. BIFROST PLAN
TO FILE FORMAL COMPLAINT WITH FMC.

2. BASIS OF QUOTE FIGHTING SHIP UNQUOTE COMPLAINT
WILL BE DELIBERATE BRACKETING OF M.V. BIFROST SCHEDULE
BY THREE EIMSKIP VESSELS. AS EXAMPLE OF
BRACKETING BIFROST OWNERS ALLEGED M.V. BAKKAFOSS
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PAGE 02 REYKJA 00459 060337Z

(EIMSKIP) WILL DEPART NORFOLK APRIL 10 (AFTER LYING AT
ANCHOR IN CHESAPEAKE BAY FOR 5-7 DAYS), BIFROST
WILL SAIL ON APRIL 12, HOF SJOKULL (EIMSKIP) APRIL 13,
AND BRUARFOSS (EIMSKIP) APRIL 14. NEXT EIMSKIP SAILING
FROM NORFOLK SCHEDULED 22 DAYS LATER. OWNERS ALLEGE
OTHER INSTANCES HAVE OCCURRED AND HAVE BEEN INNOCENTLY
ABETTED BY MSC BOOKING POLICY.

3. OWNERS ALSO COMPLAINED OF UNEQUAL TREATMENT BY MSC IN DIVISION OF HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS CARGO. THEY CLAIM IN ONE INSTANCE BIFROST WAS ASKED TO DIVIDE CARGO AVAILABLE AT NORFOLK 50-50 WITH EIMSKIP VESSEL SAILING LATER, WHEREAS THEY HAD BEEN ASKED TO SURRENDER FULL SHIPMENT OF WESTBOUND HHE TO EIMSKIP VESSEL WITH EARLIER SAILING DATE.

4. EMBOFF TOLD OWNERS ALLEGATION OF SHIPPING ACT VIOLATION PROBABLY MATTER BETWEEN BIFROST AND FMC, BUT PROMISED TO TRANSMIT COMPLAINT ABOUT DIVISION OF HHE CARGO TO NORFOLK.
BLAKE

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Message Attributes

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